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Application Number: 09/695,820

Filing Date: 10/24/2000

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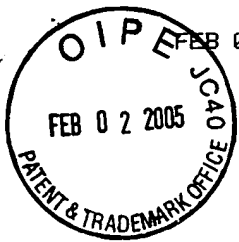
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1. Issue Fee Transmittal
2. Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application Serial No. ....09/695,820  
Filing Date .....October 24, 2000  
Inventor .....Bassam Tabbara et al.  
Group Art Unit .....2144  
Examiner .....Maniwang, Joseph R.  
Attorney's Docket No. ....MS1-548US  
Confirmation No. ....1887  
Title: System and Method for Restricting Data Transfers and Managing Software  
Components of Distributed Computers

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

To: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

From: Allan T. Sponseller (Tel. 509-324-9256 x215; Fax 509-323-8979)  
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In the Notice of Allowance mailed December 22, 2004, the following was  
included in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

the provision for allowing management devices corresponding to a plurality of management agents to access a system, and a trusted third party controller to mediate interaction among the plurality of management agents by assigning each of the plurality of management agents to a different one of a plurality of ownership domains each with restricted rights, wherein only one of the plurality of management agents can correspond to a top-level ownership domain at a time, and wherein any of the other management agents can revoke the top-level ownership domain is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art. The further provision for the top-level ownership domain having a first set of extended rights and each of the other ownership domains having a second set of limited rights, wherein the first set of rights and second set of rights include specific limitations as enumerated in the claims is not taught by the prior art.

Applicant respectfully points out that not all of the claims include all of the elements recited in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. For example, claims 33 and 44, as well as other claims, do not include the element that "any of the other management agents can revoke the top-level ownership domain". Nonetheless, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are still allowable over the cited references.

Date: 2/2/05

Respectfully Submitted,

By:   
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